

IN THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-8. (Cancelled).

9. (New) A method for preventing a kidney dysfunction caused by a nephrotoxic or potential nephrotoxic external agent which comprises administering to an individual in need thereof 2-5 mg of acetyl L-carnitine and 2-5 mg of propionyl L-carnitine/kg body weight/day or an equimolar amount of a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof.

10. (New) A method for preventing a kidney dysfunction caused by a nephrotoxic or potential nephrotoxic external agent which comprises administering to an individual in need thereof a combination composition of acetyl L-carnitine and propionyl L-carnitine or pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof, in which the weight-ratio of acetyl L-carnitine to propionyl L-carnitine is from 1:1 to 1:10.

11. (New) A method for preventing nephropathy caused by a nephrotoxic agent which comprises administering to an individual in need thereof a combination composition of acetyl L-carnitine and propionyl L-carnitine or pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof, in which the weight-ratio of acetyl L-carnitine to propionyl L-carnitine is from 1:1 to 1:10.

12. (New) A method for providing kidney protection from a kidney dysfunction caused by a nephrotoxic or potential nephrotoxic agent which comprises administering to an individual in need thereof 2-5 mg of acetyl L-carnitine and 2-5 mg of propionyl L-

carnitine/kg body weight/day or an equimolar amount of a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (New) A method for providing protection from a kidney dysfunction caused by a nephrotoxic or potential nephrotoxic external agent which comprises administering to an individual in need thereof a combination composition of acetyl L-carnitine and propionyl L-carnitine or pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof, in which the weight-ratio of acetyl L-carnitine to propionyl L-carnitine is from 1:1 to 1:10.

14. (New) A method for providing protection from nephropathy caused by a nephrotoxic or potential nephrotoxic external agent which comprises administering to an individual in need thereof a combination composition of acetyl L-carnitine and propionyl L-carnitine or pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof, in which the weight-ratio of acetyl L-carnitine to propionyl L-carnitine is from 1:1 to 1:10.